

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 135
By Ford S

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Robert Hill for 9 years of meritorious volunteer service to the Hamblen County Sheriff's Department's G.E.D. Preparation Program for inmates.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the elected representatives of the state of Tennessee should pause to pay tribute to those exemplary citizens who have given unselfishly of themselves, their time and their talents to perpetuate the public good; and

WHEREAS, Robert Hill, Chief Deputy for the Hamblen County Sheriff's Department is one such remarkable public servant; and

WHEREAS, a long-time resident of Hamblen County, Robert Hill joined the Sheriff's Department in 1986 and during his tenure there has proven to be a valuable asset to the community; and

WHEREAS, throughout his excellent service as Chief Deputy, he has adhered to the common sense approach and has displayed the common touch in all endeavors, working well with old and young alike; and

WHEREAS, a concerned person whose willingness to help those in need knows no bounds, Robert Hill is highly regarded as a professional and friend in Hamblen County and is as dependable and honest as the day is long; and

WHEREAS, a humane and caring individual, Robert Hill was concerned about the number of inmates who were unable to read and did not have a high school education; and

WHEREAS, he began a pilgrimage to provide an educational difference for inmates

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incarcerated in the Hamblen County Justice Center; and

WHEREAS, after meeting with the supervisor and coordinator of the Hamblen County Adult Education Program, the first program of its kind in Tennessee was born; and

WHEREAS, Robert Hill became an integral part of the program, explaining its purpose to inmates, escorting them to and from class, and providing security for the instructor; and

WHEREAS, Robert Hill has spent many of his evenings with the adult education program. For nine years he has volunteered from eight to twelve hours per week to ensure the success of this program; and

WHEREAS, his impact on the program is immeasurable; the recidivism rate of the seventy-eight inmates who earned their diplomas while serving time is four percent compared to seventy-five percent for the general population of incarcerated adults in this country; and

WHEREAS, the son of Jessie Moore Hill and the late Robert Benjamin Hill, Robert Hill was born and raised in the community of Buncomb County, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Robert Hill is fortunate to share both love and companionship with his wife, Louise M. Buckner Hill, their 5 children, and 14 grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Robert Hill is the perfect example of a person totally committed to family and the highest ideals of public service and should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend Robert Hill, Chief Deputy for the Hamblen County Sheriff's Department, for meritorious volunteer service in establishing the Hamblen County Sheriff's Department's G.E.D. Preparation Program for inmates, and salute his commitment to equality for all.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.